

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 20-30 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A molecular manipulator, comprising:
 - a light-sensitive compound, including a double bond, that changes a *cis-trans* configuration of the double bond in response to illumination by light of a selected wavelength; and
 - a probe to which the light-sensitive molecule is attached.
2. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the probe comprises one of a tip and a line of a scanned-proximity probe microscope.
3. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the probe comprises one of silicon, silicon oxide, aluminum oxide, and titanium oxide.
4. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the light-sensitive compound is comprises an azo compound.
5. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the light-sensitive compound further includes:
 - two arms, at least one of the two arms including the double bond; and
 - a moiety located between the two arms.

6. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 5, wherein a first arm of the two arms includes a single azo double bond, and a second arm of the two arms includes other than an azo double bond.
7. (Previously Presented) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the light-sensitive compound comprises a monoazo compound.
8. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 5, wherein each of the two arms includes an azo double bond.
9. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 1, wherein the light-sensitive compound ~~is~~ comprises a diazo compound.
10. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 8, wherein each of the two arms includes an azo double bond ~~comprising~~ having the same *cis-trans* configuration, when illuminated by the light of the selected wavelength.
11. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 5, wherein each of the two arms includes a first end, which is bonded to the moiety, and a second end, which includes a functional group, R.
12. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 11, wherein the functional group, R, ~~comprises an element~~ is selected from the group consisting of an alkyl, a haloalkyl, an aryl, an alcohol, an ether, an amine, an aldehyde, a ketone, a carboxylic acid, an ester, and an amide.

13. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 5, wherein the moiety includes a functional group, which covalently bonds to the probe.

14. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 13, wherein the functional group ~~comprises an element~~ is selected from the group consisting of a sulfide, a thiol, and an isonitrile.

15. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 13, wherein the probe is coated by a coating, to which the functional group of the moiety covalently bonds.

16. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 15, wherein the coating comprises a metal coating ~~including an element~~ is selected from the group consisting of gold, palladium, and platinum.

17. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 15, wherein the coating comprises one of trichlorosilane and trialkoxysilane, and the probe comprises a conductive metal oxide.

18. (Original) The molecular manipulator of claim 5, wherein each of the two arms comprises a different length.

19. (Currently Amended) The molecular manipulator of claim 11, further comprising a space between the two arms ~~that is varied by selecting a functional group, R, for each of the two arms~~.

20-30. (Canceled)